

2010 THON Chair Guide



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PENN STATE IFC/PANHELLENIC
DANCE MARATHON 2010

February 19-21, 2010

Section I: Dancer Information

a) Dancer Drop Off:

- ❖ Dancers should NOT drive themselves to THON Weekend due to concerns about their safety when driving home on Sunday.
- ❖ Dancer Meeting #2 – Doors will open at 3:00pm, arrive by 3:30pm in the Multi-Sports Complex on Porter Road just south of the BJC and don't be late! The Human Tunnel into the BJC will follow the meeting. Dancers should therefore bring everything that they'll need with them to the meeting.

b) Dancer Support:

- ❖ Each dancer is paired with a Morale Committee member whose main job during the weekend is to support their dancer. They will be on the floor intermittently throughout the weekend to provide motivation, emotional and physical support, massages, toys, and anything else that their dancer requests. Exchange contact information with your dancers' Moralers so that you can keep each other updated on the status of your dancers throughout the weekend.
- ❖ Every minute in THON is an important time to support your dancer.
 - On both nights of THON Weekend, the stands are the least full between midnight and early morning. Dancers take notice that there are far fewer supporters, so be there to pep them up and keep them company!
- ❖ Always give your dancers positive feedback. Tell them they look great throughout the weekend, and refrain from commenting about how tired they may appear.
- ❖ Encourage dancers to participate in the Line Dance and other activities on the floor to keep them moving, stretching, and alert.
- ❖ Update your organization on how your dancers are doing throughout the weekend. If a member comes in knowing that a dancer has had a rough couple of hours and could really use a new toy or a different type of snack, he or she will be prepared and able to provide extra motivation.
- ❖ Dancers are not permitted to leave the floor for ANY reason!

c) What to bring your dancer:

- ❖ Dollar Store toys, such as a Yo-yo
- ❖ Puzzles, Crosswords, Su-Do-Ku
- ❖ Magazines, books
- ❖ Deck of cards
- ❖ Coloring books and crayons
- ❖ Velcro balls & mitts, tennis balls
- ❖ Play-Doh
- ❖ Baby powder
- ❖ Headbands, socks, or other gear
- ❖ Disposable cameras

d) What not to bring your dancer:

- ❖ Water guns
- ❖ Anything messy (paints, glitter, bubbles, etc.)
- ❖ Fatty foods (fast food, pizza, anything with cream sauces)
- ❖ Sugary foods or beverages (candy, cookies, soda, etc.)
- ❖ Caffeine (coffee, chocolate, energy drinks, etc.)

Section II: Weekend Events

- ❖ Human tunnel from the Multi-Sport Complex to the doors of the BJC- arrive no later than 4:20pm on Friday, and Captains will show you where to stand.
- ❖ Pre-THON show
- ❖ Learning the line dance
- ❖ Kids' Fashion Show
- ❖ Family Variety Shows
- ❖ Kids' Mail Call
- ❖ Pep Rally
- ❖ Dancer Mail Call
- ❖ Color wars
- ❖ Family Hour

Note: THON's finale contains some of the most treasured moments of the weekend. Make sure to arrive early to cheer on the dancers as the weekend draws to a close! Remember you CANNOT save seats.

Section III: Interacting with Four Diamonds Families

- ❖ Be respectful to all families and children.
 - Ask for permission before picking up any child.
 - Never walk away with a child.
 - Keep in mind that children may be uncomfortable around strangers.
- ❖ Avoid any sad discussions, especially about a child's illness unless the family brings it up. Remember, THON is a chance for the kids to forget about sickness!
- ❖ Be mindful of your language at all times.
- ❖ Don't hesitate to re-introduce yourself to a family. There are many students for families to remember, so don't be offended if a family doesn't remember you.
- ❖ Remember to also interact with Four Diamonds siblings and parents.

Section IV: Spectator Information

a) Important information for the BJC:

- ❖ To ensure proper BJC security, all large bags and backpacks will be checked upon entrance to the BJC. Plan accordingly and try to leave valuables at home!
- ❖ DO NOT tape signs to the stands. Signs are not to be used to block seats.

b) Using your passes:

- ❖ **Pass Tables:** located at Portal 14. A valid form of photo ID is required to obtain your pass (PSU ID, or Driver's License if not a PSU Student).
 - Before getting in the Pass Line, check your pass availability at the **Pass Kiosk** near Gate B. There will be a big-screen TV showing your available passes.
- ❖ Because the Pass Line may be shut down for an extended period of time during the weekend, arrive early for your shift and inform pass-holders if you are unable to get onto the floor at that time.
- ❖ Try to stagger the amount of time allotted to each visitor so dancers do not catch on to regular time intervals.
- ❖ **The Pit:** can be accessed between portals 20 and 21. It is an area in which spectators can interact with dancers on the floor without needing a pass.
 - Spectators are not allowed to cross the gate at any time or hand passes from one side of the pit to the other. Pass holders violating this rule will be stripped of their pass and escorted off of the floor.
 - **The pit will not be open throughout the entire weekend.**
- ❖ If anyone in the BJC is under the influence of alcohol or is causing a disturbance, they will be removed from the BJC and pass privileges may be revoked from your organization.

c) Seating area conduct:

- ❖ There is no sitting in the stands, ANYWHERE, ANYTIME.
 - If you see adults sitting, encourage them to stand to support the dancers, HOWEVER, be respectful of elderly people and the disabled who may need to sit for medical reasons.
- ❖ Do NOT stand on the seats. This is important to the safety of everybody in the stands.
- ❖ When sitting together, be respectful to other organizations. All organizations are a part of THON, whether big or small, and everyone deserves a spot to support dancers.
- ❖ Be active: cheers, waves, and any movement in general give dancers a lot to look at!

Section V: Additional Information

a) Donations & Pledges:

- ❖ **Donations:** To be credited towards your organization's total for the year, you must turn in any donations by 11:59pm the Saturday of THON Weekend.
 - After 5pm on Thursday when the office closes, money can be turned in at any of the Info Booths, which are located at Gates A-D on the concourse level of the BJC.
- ❖ **Pledges:** All pledges should be turned into the THON office by 5 pm on Monday, February 15th to count toward your organization's total for this year.
- ❖ **Donations and pledges turned in after the above times will still be accepted, but will not be credited towards your organization's total for THON 2010!**

b) THON Store, Apparel, and Raffle:

- ❖ There are 3 THON Stores in the BJC:
 - 1 large Store (near Gate A), open 4pm Friday – 12pm Sunday
 - 2 smaller Stores (in booths next to Gates C & D), open:
 - 4pm Friday -12am Saturday
 - 7am Saturday – 1am Sunday
 - 7am Sunday -12pm Sunday
- ❖ Prices of merchandise range from \$2-40. (T-shirts are \$15; sweatshirts \$35-40.)
- ❖ **Raffle Tickets:** cost \$5 and are on sale in the THON Office from 9am-5pm, Monday through Friday as well as throughout THON Weekend near Gate A.
 - Grand prize: 2009 Suzuki SX4 Sport Sedan
 - Second prize: Classic Europe Tour sponsored by the Penn State Alumni Association
 - Third prize: brand new Dell Latitude laptop
 - Fourth prize: 2 Taylor Swift concert tickets with exclusive backstage passes

c) Concession Stands:

- ❖ **20% of all proceeds made in concessions throughout THON Weekend will be donated to this year's THON total!**
- ❖ Stand 700 (Large Concession stand across from Portal 7): Open all of THON starting at 4pm Friday
- ❖ Stand 300 (Smaller concessions across from Portal 25):
 - Friday: 4pm – 9pm
 - Saturday 9:30pm - Sunday 1am
- ❖ Mobile Stands (Creamery: across from Portal 10; Dippin' Dots: across from Portal 4):
 - Friday 4pm – 11pm
 - Saturday 11am - Sunday 1am

d) Emergency Contact Information:

- ❖ For any questions/concerns/emergencies during THON Weekend please contact: John Arnao, Communications Overall, at (267) 804-3559.

e) University Excuse:

- ❖ Please note that THON is not a University Excuse for missing class and assignments for either the Friday before or the Monday after THON. Make sure all your organization members know this as well.